

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-46-99

October 15, 1999

Question: “The 1999 National Electrical Code, Section 210-70(a)(2) states that at dwelling units, illumination shall be provided on the exterior side of outdoor entrances or exits with grade level access. Would a basement hatchway (Bilco-type doors) be considered as an entrance or exit from a dwelling unit and require such illumination?”

Answer: No, the 1999 State Building Code does not recognize basement hatchways (Bilco-type doors) as a code-regulated or code-compliant exit or entry way, therefore, illumination on the exterior of such hatchways is not a requirement of the code.